

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): T. Yamamoto, et al.

Appln. No.: Rule 53(b) Continuation Application of No. 10/237,663

Filed: February 18, 2004

For: RAILWAY CAR

Group: TBD

Examiner: TBD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 18, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in connection with a prior application of the above-identified application, Application No. 10/237,663, filed September 10, 2002.

Since Application No. 10/237,663 is being relied upon under 35 USC § 120 in the above-identified application, copies of the listed documents are not enclosed. See 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the listed

documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 648.42071CX1), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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| Form PTO-1449 | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY. DKT. NO. | APPLICATION NO. |
| | | | | 648.42071CX1 | 10/237,663 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | APPLICANT | T. Yamamoto, et al. |
| | | | | FILING DATE | February 18, 2004 |
| | | | | GROUP | TBD |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date |
|------------------|----|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------|
| | AA | 5,715,757 | 2/10/1998 | Dannawi, et al. | | | |
| | AB | 5,579,699 | 12/3/1996 | Dannawi, et al. | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation/ Abstracts | |
|------------------|----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|------------------------|----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AD | 195 17 918 | 11/21/1996 | Germany | | | | |
| | AE | 196 38 739 | 4/16/1998 | Germany | | | | |
| | AF | 0 990 815 | 4/5/2000 | EP | | | | |
| | AG | 0 802 100 | 10/22/1997 | EP | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| AI | European Search Report completed 30 April 2003, and Communication dated 9 May 2003, for EP App. No. EP 02 25 6233 |
| Examiner | Date Considered |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC